(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding non-payment of wages at Government's prescribed rates; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure the payment of minimum wages to the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) The Government at times receives complaints regarding non payment of minimum wages.

(b) The officers of both Central and State enforcement machineries are appointed as inspectors under the statutory provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. They conduct regular inspections and advise the employers to make payment of short fall of wages whenever they come across any case of non payment or less payment of wages. They can invoke penal provisions prescribed under this Act. Both Central and State Governments try to strengthen and streamline their enforcement machineries for effective implementation of the Minimum Wages Act.

Indian Overseas Welfare Fund

1713. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently set up a new "Indian Overseas Welfare Fund" for the welfare of overseas Indian workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the total corpus and the objectives of the fund; and

(d) the total financial assistance extented to overseas workers as on the 31st March, 2004?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Status and upgradation of ITIs in Uttaranchal

1714. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) have been operating in different regions of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to upgrade these institutes to meet the changing industrial environment and upgradation of technologies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the information received from Government of Uttaranchal, there are 69 Industrial Training Institutes functioning in different districts of the States is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The responsibility for setting up/upgradation of ITIs rests with the State/UT Governments. However, there is a proposal under consideration of Government of India to upgrade selective ITIs of the States including Uttaranchal State with Central financial assistance.

Statement

District-wise Position of Industrial Training Institutes of Uttaranchal

SI. No	Name of District	Name of Institute
1.	Almora	1. Govt. I.T.I., Almora
		2. Govt. IT.I., Jayanti
		3. Govt. I.T.I., Ranikhet
		4. Govt. IT.I., Sadar Quairala
		5. Govt. IT.I.. Syalde
		6. Govt. I.T.I., Dauya
		7. Govt. IT.I., Danya
		8. Govt. I.T.I., Machorh
		9. Govt. IT.I., Khoont
2.	Bageshwer	1. Govt. I.T.I., Kanda
3.	Nainital	1. Govt. I.T.I., Haldwani (Boys)
		2. Govt. IT.I., Haldwani (Women)
		3. Govt. IT.I., Bhawali (Women)
		4. Govt. ITI., Tandi
		5. Govt. IT.I., Debalghat
		6. Govt. IT.I., Okhalkanda
		7. Govt. I.T.I., Ramnagar

1	2	3	4
4.	Udam Singh	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Kashipur (Boys)
	Nagar	2.	Govt. I.T.I., Kashipur (Women)
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Dineshpur
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Gadarpur
		5.	Govt. IT.I., Sitarganj
		6.	Govt. IT.I., Bajpur
5.	Champawat	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Champawat
		2.	Govt. IT.I., Khetikhan
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Tanakpur
6.	Pithoragarh	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Pithoragarh
		2.	Govt. I.T.I..Askote
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Dharchula
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Munshyari
		5.	Govt. I.T.I., Gangolihat
7.	Dehradun	1.	Govt. IT.I., Dehradun (Boys)
		2.	Govt. I.T.I., Dehradun (Women)
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Vikashnagar
		4.	Govt. IT.I., Rajpur Road
		5.	Govt. IT.I., Doiwala
		6.	Govt. IT I., Kalsi
		7.	Govt. I.T.I., Mussorie
8.	Haridwar	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Haridwar
		2.	Govt. I.T.I., Pirankaliar
9.	Rudraprayag	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Rudraprayag
		2.	Govt. I.T.I., Ukhimath
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Chirbatia
10	Chamoli	1.	Govt. IT.I., Karnprayag
		2.	Govt. IT.I., Dewal
		3.	Govt. IT.I., Gopeshwer
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Gairsain
		5.	Govt. IT.I., Tapovan
11	Pauri	1.	Govt. I.T.I., Srinagar
		2.	Govt. I.T.I., Thailisain
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Dugadda
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Lower Bajar, Srinagar
		5.	Govt. I.T.I., Saltmahadev
		6.	Govt. I.T.I., Jayaharikhal

1	2	3	4
		7.	Govt. IT.I., Pokhara
		8.	Govt. I.T.I., Kotadwar
12.	New Tehri	1.	Govt. I.T.I., New Tehri
		2.	Govt. IT.I., Chamba
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Munikireti
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Baurari
		5.	Govt. IT.I., Devaprayag
		6.	Govt. I.T.I., Anjanisain
		7.	Govt. IT.I., Rowdh Dhar
		8.	Govt. I.T.I., Bhilangana (Chamiyala)
		9.	Govt. I.T.I., Nainbath
13.	Uttarkashi	1.	Govt. IT.I., Uttarkashi
		2.	Govt. I.T.I., Barkot
		3.	Govt. I.T.I., Purola
		4.	Govt. I.T.I., Chinyalisaur

Employment opportunities

1715. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is a huge potential of employment opportunities in the country as a result of growing outsourcing of services to India;

(b) whether Government would consider creating a separate department for providing such services so as to provide employment to many unemployed youth of the country; and

(c) if answer to part (b) above is in negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) The requirement is not felt.